

# The Lancaster News.

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\$1.50 A YEAR.

## FALL OF ANTWERP IS GRAVELY THREATENED

Big Guns of Germans Now in Range of Belgian Capital.

CAPITAL HAS BEEN MOVED

If City Falls Army Must Surrender or Fight Its Way Through German Infested Country.

Associated Press dispatches yesterday afternoon said the Belgian army's fate is a striking feature of the day's war news. Since the withdrawal of the government from Brussels to Antwerp the kingdom's entire fighting force has been concentrated in or about the latter city. And now the fall of Antwerp before the German guns that reduced the forts of Liege and Namur is gravely threatened.

Advices from neutral sources confirm heretofore disputed German claims that they have broken through the outer circle of fortifications, crossed the river Nethe and brought their big guns within range of the city proper. The Belgian government has been transferred to Ostend, the populace is fleeing into Holland and flags of mercy are flying from church steeples to indicate the structures if spared will not be utilized in the desperate defense the garrison is expected to make.

If the city falls the Belgian army will have the alternative, barring surrender, of attempting to fight its way through a German infested country to effect a juncture with the allies; or retreating into Holland, there to be interned.

For days Antwerp has been holding out in the hope that the left wing of the allies would swing around in time to save the city. Recent reports from the battle line have made it plain that succor from this source was extremely doubtful.

It is believed that the bombardment of Antwerp began today after a demand for the surrender of the city had been refused.

Little change on the battle line in the north of France is indicated in the afternoon statement of the French war office. It says that on the French left wing the Germans have made no progress, while at certain points they have moved back. On the right wing there is no change, it is said. The situation in the center remains much the same. Violent attacks in the Woivre district have been repulsed, it is stated, but no details of the fighting are given.

According to the French statement the Russian offensive continues along the front of east Prussia.

A wireless dispatch from Berlin says the papers there report the British and Japanese attacks upon Tsing-Tau have been repulsed.

Tokio announces officially that the German fire from Tsing-Tau is slackening. The Japanese government, says a dispatch from Tokio, has issued no public statement regarding the taking of the German island of Jaluit in the Pacific, but the officials explain that Japan's assurance that she does not seek territorial aggrandizement must not be interpreted as meaning that she will not take steps for the protection of commerce.

**French Official Statement.**  
Paris, Oct. 8.—The following official announcement was made in Paris this afternoon:

"First—On our left wing in the region of the department of Nord, the enemy has made progress at no point. At certain points he has moved back, particularly to the north of Arras, where the fighting is developing under conditions favorable to us. The operations of the opposing forces of cavalry are developing at the present time almost as far as the seacoast on the north.

"Between the Somme and the Oise in the vicinity of Roye the enemy is still in force, but we have retaken the major part of the positions we were obliged to give up.

"To the north of the Aisne the numerical strength of the German troops seems to have diminished.

"Second—On the center between Rheims and the Meuse there is nothing to report. On the heights

## FURMAN VS. WOFFORD.

First Football Game of Season Saturday at Greenville.

Greenville, Oct. 7.—The first game of the football season at Furman University will be played next Saturday, October 10, in Greenville. On this day comes the great clash between the teams of Furman and Wofford.

There is a great deal of interest being shown in football this year by the people of Greenville as well as the University students. Only last year football was reinstated as an intercollegiate activity at Furman. The first year's team was successful beyond expectations. This year Furmanites have succeeded in getting together a fast aggregation. Football is in its first year at Wofford, and it is understood that the Wofford aggregation is a fast one.

## COTTON POOL WILL RELIEVE SITUATION

President Wilson Believes Plan Will Do Much to Improve Matters.

Washington, Oct. 8.—The proposed \$150,000,000 cotton loan fund will be discussed here Friday by a committee of the federal reserve board with Festus J. Wade of St. Louis and other bankers who are promoting the plan.

President Wilson indicated today he was not willing to support various schemes presented to him involving legislation for the relief of cotton growers, but declared he was considering means for solving the problem.

He believes the plan for a bankers' pool of \$150,000,000 now organizing will do much to improve the situation. He took the position today that he could not favor other plans which might do temporary good, but which he believed would set bad precedents and lead to unsound financial conditions.

## Government Grain Reports.

Washington, Oct. 7.—Greater corn prospects by 78,000,000 bushels and great improvement in tobacco, increasing the prospects of that crop over the forecast in September by 92,000,000 pounds were features of the department of agriculture's October crop report announced today.

An increase of 11,000,000 bushels in the oats crop and 10,000,000 bushels in the apple crop also were forecasted.

Spring wheat showed a slight decrease, being 4,000,000 bushels under the September forecast, yet the combined crop of winter and spring wheat makes this year's harvest of that grain a record one.

## Thirty-Nine Injured.

Grafton, W. Va., Oct. 7.—Thirty-nine persons were injured, four seriously late today, when a Baltimore & Ohio passenger train was derailed ten miles south of this city.

of the Meuse between Verdun and St. Mihiel the enemy has drawn back to the north of Hattonchatel. He still holds St. Mihiel and some positions to the north of St. Mihiel.

"In the Woivre district the violent attacks delivered by the enemy to the west of Apremont have failed. "On our right wing, Lorraine and the Vosges, there have been no changes.

"In Russia, along the front of East Prussia, the Russian offensive continues. Very spirited fighting is taking place on the frontier to the west of Suwalki."

## Official German Statement.

London, Oct. 8.—A Berlin dispatch to the Reuter Telegram Company contains an official statement given out at general headquarters in Berlin on the evening of October 7. It follows:

"The engagements on the right wing in France have not led to any decision. The attacks of the French in the Argonne and from the northeast front of Verdun have been repulsed.

"Off Antwerp the attack has crossed a section of the river Nethe.

"The attack of the Russians on the government of Euwalki have been repulsed, the Russians losing 2,700 prisoners and nine machine guns.

"In Poland in minor successful engagements west of Ivangorod, we captured 4,800 prisoners."

## NO CROP NEXT YEAR IS PLAN NOW URGED

Advocates of Elimination Make Converts.

RAISE QUESTION OF LAW.

Many Arguments Against Planting Cotton Next Season Are Made.

According to The State this morning pressure is being brought to bear upon the special committee from the house appointed to consider bills relating to the curtailment of cotton production to report a measure providing for the elimination of the staple entirely in 1915. It is impossible to judge any degree of accuracy at this stage of the session what headway the total elimination idea is making among the members of the house at large, but there are indications that converts are being rapidly made to the plan of producing no cotton next year.

The select committee from the house held two meetings yesterday, one in the afternoon and the other last night. The committee will hold its third session at 9 o'clock this morning in the room of the supreme court.

At the afternoon session of the select committee, four advocates of the entire elimination of cotton as a crop in 1915 made arguments before the committee. They were: J. G. Anderson of Rock Hill, Wade Stackhouse of Dillon, J. J. M. Graham of Williamsburg and J. A. Rhame of Lee. Last night W. F. Stevenson of Cheraw and other members of the house who have introduced bills intended to reduce the production of cotton in 1915 were heard by the committee.

The revolutionary idea of eliminating cotton as a crop in 1915 is being opposed on the ground that the general assembly has a right to regulate the amount of the crop produced, but that the police power of the state does not give scope for the destruction of the crop in its entirety. The question of the unconstitutionality of a law prohibiting the growing of cotton would have to be threshed out in the courts.

The problem which the select committee from the house is trying to solve is recognized on all sides as of tremendous importance to the state and the South at large, involving as it does between \$20,000,000 and \$50,000,000 to South Carolina cotton growers alone. The committee has avowed its intention of making its report to the house as early as it can consistently do so, in view of its desire to have the fullest and freest discussion of the whole question of the curtailment of cotton production.

The members of the select committee from the house now engaged in holding a series of hearings on the question of curtailment are:

Mr. Lee, Darlington, chairman; Mr. Belser, Sumter; Mr. Pegues, Marlboro; Mr. Atkinson, Chester; Mr. Blackwell, Laurens; Mr. Betha, Dillon; Mr. Mower, Newberry; Mr. Wyche, Spartanburg; Mr. Welch, Richland; Mr. Epps, Sumter, and Mr. Riley, Saluda.

## INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

Germ Found By Dr. Simon Flexner of Rockefeller Institute.

Baltimore, Oct. 8.—Dr. Simon Flexner, head of Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, speaking at the Johns Hopkins Hospital anniversary celebration here today, voiced the belief that he had cultivated the hitherto invisible germ which causes infantile paralysis and had reproduced the disease in animals by injection of culture of this germ.

The doctor believed the disease was transmitted through the respiratory channels rather than by insects, as some have held, and he advanced the theory that healthy persons often carried the germ in their bodies and through them children were infected; that there are "carriers" of infantile paralysis, just as there are "carriers" of typhoid and diphtheria, who, while transmitting these diseases to others, do not suffer from them themselves.

## MANY COTTON BILLS BEFORE ASSEMBLY

Special Session Ready to Begin Work on Relief Measures.

LEFT OVER BILLS CUT OUT

Acceage Reduction and Warehouse Bills Will be Chief Business Transacted.

Columbia Special to Charleston News and Courier, Oct. 6.—The extraordinary session of the general assembly met today responsive to the call of Governor Blease.

It is evident that the purpose is to consider only such legislation as is imperative or is related to the present exceptional conditions brought about by the European war.

It was determined to clear the legislative decks of all left-over bills and start afresh with such bills as are related to the present emergency.

A motion to limit the pay of members to ten days was practically killed.

A dozen bills were presented, all relating to the reduction of acreage, the extension of time for the payment of the taxes due this fall, a proposition to extend the time for mortgages that may be due, authority to borrow money with which to operate the state, a commission to confer with other cotton-growing states and a warehouse bill. Mr. Summers proposed a bill looking to the reduction of the rate of interest.

Mr. Fortner has again proposed his bill relative to white teachers in connection with colored schools and a passenger rate reduction bill.

## TO COVER SITUATION.

The matter which today received most attention was how the general assembly should get to work and how best to frame one bill on such topics as might be undertaken as would best stand the test of law and practicability. Mr. Welch of Columbia has a plan whereby it is proposed to have a committee of fifteen consider all emergency matters and frame such bills as may be thought best. This committee is to invite, farmers, bankers, manufacturers, merchants and other interested, and after hearing expert opinions frame such bills as may be deemed best and wise.

Messrs. Belser and Epps had a similar proposition only that this special committee undertake to frame the best acreage reduction measure.

Mr. Sturkie of Calhoun, proposed the formation of a special committee of twelve to consider all emergency bills.

Mr. Welch wanted a joint committee, while Mr. Sturkie's idea was to refer all matters to a special house committee. Nothing was done with any of these resolutions today.

Mr. James of Bishopville has pending a resolution looking to the state securing from the federal government \$25,000,000 with which to handle the cotton crop. The plan in brief is to pledge cotton against such a fund, properly insuring and holding the cotton and to sell the cotton and refund the loan when cotton reaches 12 cents per pound.

The special session was called to consider the situation brought about by the war and as affecting the people of the state.

## MEASURES PROPOSED.

The bills proposed today and some of which will be published from day to day in The News and Courier were as follows:

By Mr. Wyche: To authorize the borrowing of funds with which to operate the government.

By Mr. Wyche: To extend the time for the payment of taxes due in 1914.

By Mr. Wyche: To authorize the appointment of a commission to confer with other cotton growing states.

By Mr. Wyche: To provide for the reduction of cotton acreage.

By Mr. Wyche: To exempt certain taxpayers in York and Laurens from the payment of taxes.

By Mr. Fortner: To regulate the appointment of managers in primaries.

By Mr. Fortner: To regulate and

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## CHARTER FOR NEWSPAPER.

Several Associated With Blease in New Concern.

Columbia Special to Charleston News and Courier, Oct. 7.—The Commonwealth Company of Columbia has been commissioned by the Secretary of state with a capital stock of \$25,000. The company will publish a newspaper in Columbia and do a general publishing and book store business.

Petitioners of the new company are: Cole L. Blease of Columbia, John L. McLaurin of Bennettsville, S. G. Mayfield of Denmark, Thomas F. Brantley of Orangeburg, E. H. Aull of Newberry, W. A. Stuckey of Bishopville, Olin Sawyer of Georgetown, O. L. Johnson of Spartanburg and C. E. Tolly of Anderson.

## JAPANESE TAKE SHANTUNG ROAD

China Protested and Demanded the Withdrawal of the Japanese Troops, but Will Not Fight.

Peking, China, Oct. 8.—The government has been informed that a party of thirty Japanese on Wednesday occupied the stations of the Shantung Railway at Tainan, the western terminus of the German-owned road. The foreign office again immediately protested to the Japanese legation, demanding the withdrawal of the Japanese troops.

However, despite the ultimatum-like character of the Chinese note, it is admitted that does not intend to fight. It also is announced that at the solicitation of the government, which feared that otherwise the situation with Japan would be further complicated, the Germans have not fulfilled their threat to dynamite the bridges. They had announced that this would be done unless China compelled the Japanese to withdraw from the railway. Meantime the Japanese are preparing to reopen traffic on the road.

The feeling here against the Japanese is becoming intense. The papers publish accounts of this alleged misbehavior with characteristic exaggerations.

An American missionary at Weihien telegraphs that 200 Japanese had arrived there by the third day of occupation, and that on the fourth day all but thirty of the soldiers proceeded westward without having molested the inhabitants.

From other missionaries and correspondents come reports of such cases of wrongdoing as might be expected from a few in an army of 30,000 strong. The trouble usually results from the Japanese system of drawing upon the natives for commissary requirements.

Chinese communities are compelled to meet quickly large and unusual demands in the way of supplies for the Japanese, but according to several reports they are paid more than market price for them by the army. On the other hand, it is said occasional individual cases of plundering the farmers and abuse of women are reported.

## DICK'S DECISION.

Way Now Clear For Hoyt to be Next Speaker of House.

Columbia Special to Charleston News and Courier, Oct. 7.—J. T. Liles, member of the house from Orangeburg, and member-elect of the next house, today gave out the following:

"The decision of Dr. George W. Dick not to be a candidate for speaker of the house at the 1915 session relieves from embarrassment the many mutual friends of Dr. Dick and Mr. James A. Hoyt, the other aspirant for the speakership. Both these candidates had strong support, and the race would have been an interesting one, but Dr. Dick's withdrawal practically assures the election of Mr. Hoyt."

The prospect is that the new house will be organized in harmony, and that the members will be in position to devote themselves without delay to constructive legislation. The outlook for beneficial legislation is probably brighter than it has been for a number of years.

## Canadians Landed Yesterday.

London, Oct. 8.—The Canadian troops will be landed in England today and sent to an inland training camp.

A cow recently walked into a village bank in Ohio. She probably wanted to have her milk certified.

## WILSON ANXIOUS TO ASSIST SOUTH

Talks With South Carolina Delegation on Cotton.

LEVER'S WAREHOUSE BILL

Chairman Henry, of Rules Committee, Says He Will Grant Special Rule For Measure.

Washington Special to Charleston News and Courier, Oct. 7.—After an interview with President Wilson this morning the following statement was issued in behalf of the six members of the South Carolina delegation in the house who were present:

"Representatives Finley, Johnson, Lever, Aiken, Whaley and Byrnes, by appointment, called on the President this morning. The call was for the purpose of discussing the conditions in the South growing out of the paralysis of the cotton market. The conference lasted for more than half an hour. Every phase of the situation was talked over freely and fully. The representatives left thoroughly impressed with the belief that President Wilson is in deep and thorough sympathy with the South and that he intends to use all the power he has under the law. It is not believed, however, by the representatives that the President would favor or that Congress would pass any of the emergency bills that have been proposed to meet the abnormal conditions. One suggestion much discussed the last two or three days has been that the President might issue one hundred millions of Panama bonds, sell them and deposit the money in the distressed sections. There is no evidence that the President has changed his view that this is not a good time to offer bonds, as he expressed in his last address to Congress."

Representatives Finley and Johnson, joint authors of house bill 19,004, recently introduced by Mr. Finley for the relief of the cotton growers, said that they were not wedded to any particular measure, but considered the situation so grave that they were willing to vote for any feasible plan to give relief to the South.

Messrs. Finley, Johnson, Whaley and Aiken declared themselves opposed to adjournment, because they think Congress should stay here to give whatever federal aid it can to the farmers in their distress.

President Wilson said to Representative Lever that he was keenly disappointed over the defeat of the effort to call up the Lever warehouse bill last Monday in the house and hoped that some way could yet be found to get the measure up for consideration.

The President expressed the same sentiment in talking to the North Carolina delegation at another hour.

A petition for a special rule is being circulated in behalf of the warehouse bill, and Chairman Henry said tonight that he would call the rules committee together Friday or Saturday and grant the rule. This change in Mr. Henry's attitude was noted a few hours after the President's statement.

## German Aeroplanes Drop Three Bombs in Streets of Paris.

Paris, Oct. 8.—A German aeroplane flying over Paris and the suburbs of Auberville and Saint Denis at 9 o'clock this morning dropped two bombs, one of which wounded three persons. The other did no harm.

Hostile air craft have usually avoided Paris and vicinity early in the day because of dangerous atmospheric currents. French troops stationed in the city and suburbs have been commanded not to fire upon the aeroplanes because of the danger from falling bullets.

## German Aircraft Increases Panic Among the Belgians.

Antwerp, via The Hague and London, Oct. 8.—The condition of panic among the populace was increased today by the appearance at 11 o'clock this morning and 3 this afternoon of German aircraft which dropped bombs, destroying seven houses and killing a score of people.